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d'Inville's report on the Mauch Chunk red shale and Pottsville conglomerate series, outside of the anthracite region, and the results of Mr. A. Dw. Smith's studies of the anthracite coal measures.

From the report upon the Mauch Chunk shales we find that geologists still have before them the problem of the abrupt transition from the finest red mud to the coarsest pudding stone or gravel rock which is observed throughout the eastern part of the State, a transition which does not conform to any theory yet devised.

Mr. Smith's paper is a detailed account of the comparative quantity and quality of the coal basins in the different "fields" of the anthracite region.

The illustrations include 190 page plates showing maps, sections and diagrams, and figures of the representative fossil forms found in the beds under discussion.

U. S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries, Pt. XX.⁶—This volume contains the reports of the Commissioner and his assistants for the year ending June 30, 1894. The subjects to which attention is directed are the propagation and distribution of food-fishes and the explorations of fishing-grounds. More than half of the volume is devoted to appendices comprising papers by specialists based on the work of the Commission.

The summary of distribution shows that during the year 33 species of fish and 1 crustacean, the lobster, were sent to various parts of the United States and to the following foreign countries: Canada, Mexico, United States of Columbia, Belgium, France, Scotland, Switzerland, and Japan.

Animals at Work and Play.⁷—This little volume, of some 320 pages, comprises a series of papers dealing with the general activities and emotions of animals in their every day life. The author points out their little fads in bed-making and in house-keeping generally; their social instincts, fondness for play and consequent sense of humor; their delight in personal cleanliness and the different methods of making their "toilettes;" how they resort to herbs for ailments, and a variety of other interesting customs among what we are pleased to term "the lower creatures." In fact, he so "humanizes" his birds and beasts that the reader finds them most companionable. One chapter

⁶ Report of the U. S. Commissioner Fish and Fisheries for the year ending June 30, 1894. Washington, 1896.

⁷ *Animals at Work and Play.* By C. J. Cornish. Macmillan & Co., New York, 1896, 8vo., \$1.75.